

**GUNPOWDER BAPTIST CHURCH** - 1887 - SE corner of Middletown and Old Freeland Roads. (20075 Freeland Road). Church was formed in 1806 by 88 members who signed a covenant at Tipton's Meeting House in Middletown. The congregation denounced slavery in 1815 at the cost of lost membership. The Baptists met in Tipton's Meeting House until they acquired a lot in 1853. The present structure, the second church, was built in 1887. Frame and clapboard building in Victorian Gothic; slate-covered gable roof; central entrance spire; open belfry with imbricated shingles at base. Bracketing under the eaves. Hip-roofed hall for offices and kitchen attached. Stained glass windows were added in 1940's after two violent hail storms. A new church of 1974 on the opposite side of Middletown Road permitted the 1887 church to be converted to a youth chapel and fellowship hall; the oak pews were removed, the interior carpeted. The adjoining cemetery contains a non-sectarian section left by the Dorsey family for the free use of any citizens of the area. (Old church reported torn down in B.C. Union, October 2, October, 1886.)